(c) what action has been taken on the recommendations received;

(d) likely time by which decisions on each of the recommendations is likely to be taken; and

(e) if answer of (b), (c) and (d) are in the negative, likely date by which the recommendations are anticipated to be received by Government?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The recommendations of the Committee *inter-alia* include enhancement of posts at all levels of AFHQ Civil Service from Assistant to Principal Director by providing matching savings, direct entry at Section Officer level only and grant of non-functional pay scale of Rs. 8000-13500 to Section Officers.

(c) to (e) the report is under examination of the Government in consultation with Ministry of Defence (Finance) and Department of Personnel & Training. Government will take decision as soon as the consultation process with concerned department is over.

Shortage of Personnel

3082. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is shortage of personnel in certain departments/wings of the Armed Forces;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) will Government consider granting commission to other ranks to fill the vacancies of officers?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A statement is attached.

Statement

Shortage of Personnel in Armed Forces

There is a shortage of personnel in defence services. The deficiency in the Officers cadre and Personnel Below Officers Rank (PBOR) in the Army, Air Force and Navy is given below:

	Army	Air Force	Navy
Officers	11691	375	1333
Personnel Below Officers Rank (PBOR)	No shortage	4943	4243

For Personnel Below Officers Rank (PBOR) who meet the requisite educational and other criteria for grant of commission to officer cadre, various schemes are available in the Army, Air Force and Navy as given below:

Service	Scheme
Army	(i) Army Cadet College
	(ii) Special Commissioned Officer and
	(iii) Permanent Commission (Special List)
Navy	(i) Commission Worthy and
	(ii) Special Duties Commission
Air Force	(i) Airmen Entry Commission
	(ii) Senior Non-Commissioned Officers Commission and
	(iii) Branch Commission.

US Warships for Surveillance purposes

3083. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether USA has agreed to give warships to our Navy for surveillance purposes on lease;